After the dismantling of APM, the normal fluctuations in the international oil market would be reflected in the domestic prices of petroleum products. However, Government are constantly reviewing the international oil prices, particularly the volatility and its likely impact on the domestic market. As and when Government intervention is considered necessary, appropriate measures will be taken.

LPG Agency at Tirupattur in Tamil Nadu

*585. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of problems faced by LPG consumers in Tirupattur and surrounding areas in Sivaganga district of Tamil Nadu due to non-availability of LPG agencies in that area;

(b) if so, whether LPG agencies are proposed to be set up at Tirupattur;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) At present, the requirement of LPG consumers of Tirupattur and surrounding areas is being met by the nearest distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have planned a new agency in the area. OMCs have not reported any problem regarding supply of LPG to the enrolled customers.

Excise duty on bicycle parts

*586. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from United Cycle and Parts Manufacturers'Association, Ludhiana (Punjab) requesting the Central Government to consider the imposition of excise duty on bicycle and its parts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEEN. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have received a representation dated 5.3.2002 from United Cycle & Parts Manufacturer Association, Ludhiana, requesting the

Government to withdraw the central excise duty levy imposed on bicycle and its parts in this year's budget. The issues raised in support of their requests are as follows:

(i) Bicycle parts are reserved for small scale sector. Bicycle parts are mostly manufactured by a small group of people. It is difficult for such SSI units to comply with the excise rules and procedures.

(ii) The bicycle industry caters to the weakest section of the population. This excise duty with its compounding effects, translate into steep price rise of approximately Rs. 100. This price rise is likely to result in shrinkage of demand by 10%.

(iii) This levy will have adverse impact on exports also as the exporter will not be entitlted to get relief of duty paid on sub-contracts.

(iv) The size of domestic sales is Rs. 1850 crores approx. Considering that the small scale units are entitled to SSI exemption, the likely revenue from this sector will be less than Rs. 40 Crores. Considering the employment opportunities generated by this sector as well as the additional burden on 99 crore poor people, the Government may consider withdrawal of central excise duty.

(c) Having regard to the representations and considering that excise at 4% on parts/accessories and again on cycle will lead to cascading, Government has exempted parts and accessories of bicycles from the levy of the central excise duty *w.e.f.* 27.4.2002. Government has not found it feasible to withdraw the 4% duty on bicycles.

I.T. Return of M/S Buildmore India Ltd. and Skipper Corner

*587. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s Buildmore India Limited, Bl-A, Ajit Singh House, Plot No. 12, DDA Commercial Complex, Yusuf Sarai and Skipper Comer, 88 Nehru Place, New Delhi, are regularly filing IT returns and paying taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether there are large scale discrepancies in their returns as they are fleecing public by getting money from them and promising residential flats but